



BOROUGH OF HIGHAM FERRERS



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year 1945.



D. A. McCracken, M.D.

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Borough of Higham Ferrers.

Members of Highway and Sanitary Committee :

COUNCILLOR R. W. ABBOTT (Chairman), ALDERMAN J. E. JEFFS,
COUNCILLORS A. C. A. COLTON, L. CLIFTON, J. E. SKINNER,
F. J. LAMBERT and F. G. FELCE.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR, ALDERMAN H. R. PATENALL, J.P., C.C.,
was an *ex-officio* member.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority :

Medical Officer of Health,
DAVID ANDREW MCCrackEN, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Also holds appointments of

Deputy County Medical Officer of Health.
Deputy School Medical Officer.
Medical Officer of Health, Rushden Urban District Council.
Medical Officer of Health, Irthlingborough Urban District Council.
Medical Officer of Health, Towcester Rural District Council.
Medical Officer, Kettering Venereal Diseases Treatment Centre.

Sanitary Inspector (*temporary*) :

FREDERICK SAMUEL FIELDING PIPER, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.,

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS. 1945.

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------|
| Area (acres) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,954 |
| Population 1931 (census) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2,928 |
| „ 1945 (Registrar-General's estimate) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3,268 |
| Number of separate dwellings, 1931 (census) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 819 |
| „ „ „ „ 1945 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,068 |
| Rateable value, 1945 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £14,089 |
| Product of a penny rate, 1945 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £52 |

Live Births.

| | | | | | <i>Total</i> | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> | <i>Rate</i> |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|
| Legitimate | ... | ... | ... | ... | 65 | 31 | 34 | } 21.72 |
| Illegitimate | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 | 1 | 5 | |
| | | | | | 71 | 32 | 39 | |

Stillbirths.

| | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|---|---|---------------|
| Legitimate | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 1 | 1 | } 0.60 |
| Illegitimate | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — | |
| | | | | | 2 | 1 | 1 | |

Deaths.

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|--------------|
| All Causes | ... | ... | ... | ... | 46 | 30 | 16 | 14.07 |
|------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|--------------|

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|
| Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | <i>nil.</i> |
| Other puerperal causes | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | <i>nil.</i> |

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births.

| | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|
| Legitimate | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 30.73 |
| Illegitimate | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | <i>nil.</i> |
| Total | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 28.16 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|
| Deaths from Cancer (all ages) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4. |
| „ „ Measles (all ages) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1. |
| „ „ Whooping Cough (all ages) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | <i>nil.</i> |
| „ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | <i>nil.</i> |

HIGHAM FERRERS,

23rd July, 1946.

To The Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Higham Ferrers.

MR. MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present for your consideration the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary circumstances of the Borough for the year ended 31st December, 1945.

Anxiety and uncertainty of war-time conditions have now passed, and the inhabitants of the town can now look forward with confidence to a continuous and steady improvement in the sphere of housing and sanitation. The immediate housing problem should to a great extent be met by the housing programme, but as the general standard of housing improves there will be further demands for better accommodation and amenities.

The vital statistics are generally satisfactory. The birth rate continues to show an upward trend, but the death rate exceeds the national rate. The infant mortality rate is highly satisfactory.

Apart from measles, which made its anticipated biennial outbreak, the incidence of zymotic diseases continues at a low level.

This is the last occasion on which it will be my pleasure to write an Annual Report on the health of the Borough. During my tenure of office, which has been held for the most part under war-time conditions, two outstanding features in the history of the town occurred, namely the organisation of Civil Defence and the Government Evacuation Scheme. The former brought into being an effective force of keen and enthusiastic citizens from all walks of life, who gave freely of their time and energy to make an efficient and well-trained organisation. The latter brought to light many sociological and psychological problems which made the tasks of those responsible for its administration, and also those of the housewife, very irksome on occasion.

I wish to place on record my sincere and grateful appreciation of the continued support I received from the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Corporation, and the willing co-operation and assistance which has been afforded me at all times by the officers of the Council.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

D. A. McCRACKEN, M.D.
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area—The area of the borough is 1,954 acres.

Population—The Registrar-General has estimated the resident population for the mid-year 1945 to have been 3,268 persons. The population as compared with the pre-war estimate of 3,145 in 1939 shows an increase of 123 persons. The natural increase in population, *i.e.* the excess of births over deaths, amounted to twenty-five in 1945.

Government Evacuation Scheme—In 1939 the Borough was scheduled as a reception area for evacuees. Early in the year a survey was made in the Borough to determine the available accommodation which could be used for housing persons who would have to be evacuated from the danger areas when War was declared. Elaborate arrangements were made in the town well in advance of evacuation, and these were the subject of favourable comment by the Minister of Health in the House of Commons. The survey revealed that 1,187 persons could be accommodated, and the provisional allocation of evacuees made by the Ministry of Health totalled 700. The evacuation scheme commenced operation on the 1st September, 1939, but evacuees were not received until some ten days after the primary exodus from the danger areas, the Minister of Health having informed the Town Council that the accommodation in the town was being held in reserve. Some 376 evacuees, mainly of the class “children of pre-school age accompanied by their mothers or other responsible persons,” arrived in the town from Rugby. They had been originally evacuated from Hoxton, Shoreditch and West Hampstead districts in London to Rugby, but had to be re-evacuated from that town as it had been removed from the reception area list. Reception of this class of evacuees was disastrous so far as the success of billeting was concerned, since the prospective hostesses had already made their wishes known to the Billeting Officers as to the age and sex of unaccompanied children they would prefer to accommodate. The evacuees were received at the Council School, and from there transferred to billets after receiving refreshment.

In general, the evacuees who were mothers with young children appeared not to relish the prospect of being billeted in a small Borough for the duration of hostilities. There were many unpleasant scenes at the reception centre whilst the Billeting Officers were frantically searching

for suitable accommodation. A number of evacuees refused to be billeted and returned forthwith to the danger areas in the City from whence they had come. The mothers very much resented their children being examined for skin infestations, but in view of the chaos which prevailed no verminous children were removed for cleansing.

From time to time during the War small parties of evacuees arrived in the town and found their own billets. Much of the social work amongst the evacuees was carried out by the Women's Voluntary Service for Civil Defence, while the Billeting Officers gave freely of their time and energy, overcoming many of the administrative difficulties which arose in connection with the scheme.

Sociological and psychological factors made the task of those responsible for the scheme very difficult. The family, the basic unit of society, was broken up in the evacuation areas and gravely disturbed in the reception areas. Each social group of society has its own standard of living, but under the scheme different classes of society were forced to live together. Mass migration of this character was bound to bring to light aspects of social behaviour and medical problems unprecedented in the history of the country.

Deaths—The total number of deaths assigned to the borough by the Registrar-General after adjustment for inward and outward transferable deaths was forty-six as compared with thirty-six in 1944. The death rate, based on the estimated population, was 14.07 per thousand as compared with 10.90 in 1944. The death rate for the borough exceeded that for England and Wales by 2.67 per thousand of population. The local death rate and number of deaths for the quinquennium 1941-45, together with the rates for the Administrative County and the country as a whole, were as follows :

| Death Rates, 1941-45. | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | 1941 | 1942 | 1943 | 1944 | 1945 |
| Higham Ferrers ... | ... | 11.6(42) | 7.9(28) | 11.3(39) | 10.9(36) | 14.1(46) |
| Administrative County ... | ... | 11.9 | 11.0 | 12.3 | 12.6 | |
| England and Wales ... | ... | 12.9 | 14.6 | 12.1 | 11.6 | 11.4 |

A list of the causes of death classified according to the International List of Causes of Death, 1938, is given in Table 1, page 16 ; whilst, in addition, a history of the rate dating from 1892 together with other vital statistics will be found in Table No. 6, page 20.

Births—The number of live births assigned to the borough was seventy-one (32 males, 39 females), as compared with sixty in 1944. The number of births was equivalent to a rate of 21.72 per thousand of population, and shows an improvement on the rate of 18.19 for the

previous year. This is the highest birth rate recorded during the past twenty-five years. The following table shows the trend of the rate for the quinquennium 1941-45, together with the rates for the Administrative County and England and Wales for comparison :

| Birth Rates, 1941-45. | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | 1941 | 1942 | 1943 | 1944 | 1945 |
| Higham Ferrers ... | ... | 12.50 | 15.50 | 15.45 | 18.19 | 21.72 |
| Administrative County ... | ... | 13.51 | 16.66 | 17.91 | 20.07 | |
| England and Wales ... | ... | 14.20 | 15.80 | 16.50 | 17.60 | 16.10 |

Stillbirths—Two legitimate stillbirths were recorded. This is equivalent to 0.60 per thousand of population, or 27.39 per thousand total births. The rate per thousand of population for England and Wales was 0.46.

Illegitimate Births—Six illegitimate live births (1 male, 5 females) were registered. This is equivalent to a rate of 84.5 per thousand live births as compared with 100 in 1944.

Infant Mortality—Two legitimate infants died before attaining their first birthday. The rate of 28.16 per thousand live births is very satisfactory as compared with the national rate of forty-six. The satisfactory trend of the rate is shown in the following table, together with other rates for comparison :

| Death rate under one year per 1,000 live births. | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | 1941 | 1942 | 1943 | 1944 | 1945 |
| Higham Ferrers ... | ... | 22.20 | 36.30 | 19.23 | 16.66 | 28.16 |
| Administrative County ... | ... | 48.18 | 34.50 | 40.38 | 38.00 | |
| England and Wales ... | ... | 59.00 | 40.00 | 49.00 | 46.00 | 46.00 |

Maternal Mortality—No deaths were ascribed to puerperal causes or other conditions associated with childbirth.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Laboratory—The laboratory work associated with the control and diagnosis of infectious diseases is carried out at the Emergency Public Health Laboratory at Northampton General Hospital. Samples of milk are examined for bacteriological cleanliness and keeping quality at the County Council's Laboratory, Northampton.

Diphtheria Antitoxin—A supply of antitoxin is maintained at the Town Hall and is provided free to medical practitioners for use in the town.

Ambulance Service—Non-infectious and accident cases are removed to hospital by the Austin motor ambulance maintained by the Higham Ferrers Ambulance Committee. Infectious cases are removed by the ambulance of the Joint Isolation Hospital Board.

Nursing in the Home—The Higham Ferrers Nursing Association, which is affiliated with the Northamptonshire Nursing Association, employs one Queen's Nurse, who holds the Certificate of the Central Midwives' Board. Details of the work carried out in 1945 was as follows :

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Cases Nursed</i> | | | <i>Total Visits</i> |
|-------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| | <i>General</i> | <i>Midwifery</i> | <i>Maternity</i> | |
| 1945 | 80 | 25 | 10 | 1933 |

Treatment Centres and Clinics—There have been no changes in the arrangements described in 1942.

Hospital Accommodation for Infectious Diseases—Accommodation is provided by the East Northamptonshire Joint Hospital Board at their Hospital in Wellingborough. The precept levied on the Council, by the Board, for 1945 was £75.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

Water Supply—The supply of water to the town was sufficient in quantity and of high bacteriological quality throughout the year. I am pleased to report that the Higham Ferrers and Rushden Joint Water Board have had their water resources reviewed by Mr. H. J. F. Gourley, of Messrs. Binnie, Deacon and Gourley, and have accepted his report and adopted a scheme for the augmentation and improvement of the supply. The scheme makes provision *inter alia* for increasing the yield from the Hardwater Crossing well, the laying of a new rising main of 12 ins. diameter from the well to Rushden, and the construction of an elevated service reservoir adjoining the existing reservoir on Bedford Road, Rushden.

The daily consumption of water per head of population for 1941-45 was :

| | | | 1941 | 1942 | 1943 | 1944 | 1945 |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|
| Domestic and Municipal | | | | | | | |
| purposes | ... | ... | 19.18 | 18.85 | 20.01 | 15.64 | <i>galls.</i> |
| Trade purposes | | ... | 3.05 | 2.80 | 3.50 | 2.74 | ,, |

Sewage Disposal, Drainage and Sewerage—Prior to 1894 the Town's sewage was discharged at three points into streams and thence to the River Nene. The loans for these foul sewers were authorised in 1870 and amounted to £1,200.

In 1898 steps were taken by the corporation to acquire sufficient land to deal with the sewage of the town by broad irrigation so as to avoid pollution of the river. The Local Government Board held a Public Local Enquiry on 18th January, 1898, into the proposals of the corporation to construct outfall works on the north-western side of the town on some two acres of land. The loan for which authority was sought amounted to £4,900. The proposals made provision for the preliminary treatment of the sewage in an "Ives" tank, the capacity of which was to be one sixth the dry weather flow, which was estimated to be of the order of 40,000 gallons, or ten gallons per head of 2,000 population. The scheme was approved, and the new works and sewers were completed and functioned early in 1899.

Apart from the provision of a new sewer in 1906, no further additions were made to the sewerage and sewage disposal works until 1914.

From the reports of my predecessors, the sewage disposal arrangements in the town appeared to function satisfactorily until 1913, when

the County Medical Officer of Health reported adversely on the condition of the disposal works and the state of the effluent being discharged into the River Nene. Acting on this report, the Town Council instructed the Borough Surveyor to prepare a report on the condition of the works and make recommendations for their improvement. A printed report on the sewage disposal system, and recommendations for their improvement, was prepared and adopted by the Town Council. Following an application to the Local Government Board for permission to borrow the sum of £1,650, a Public Local Enquiry was held on 31st March, 1914. At this enquiry it was stated that the advent of an ample water supply by the Higham Ferrers and Rushden Water Board in 1906, and the introduction of a water carriage system of sewage disposal, created conditions which made the existing sewage works inadequate to deal effectively with the town sewage. The proposed scheme provided for a detritus tank fitted with screens to arrest the grosser suspended matter, two sedimentation tanks, two biological filter beds fitted with revolving distributor arms and a humus tank. The works were completed towards the end of 1914.

These works appeared to function satisfactorily until 1936, when the Medical Officer of Health reported that steps would require to be taken in the near future to deal with the ever-increasing volume of sewage and the exclusion of storm water. An analysis of the effluent made in 1937 showed that its standard was much below that recommended by the Royal Commission on Sewage Disposal. Following a report by the Medical Officer of Health, the Town Council sought the advice of Messrs. Pick, Everard, Keay and Gimson, Consulting Civil Engineers. The engineers reported that many of the sewers in the town were of insufficient capacity in times of heavy rain; the trade wastes discharged from some of the factories tended to choke the sewers, and that there were indications that sub-soil water was leaking into the foul sewers. Analysis of the sewage showed that it was of abnormally high strength and consequently difficult to treat satisfactorily. A measure of the sewage flow in April, 1938, gave a total d.w.f. of 86,000 gallons, of which trade waste accounted for some 16,000 gallons. The sewage per head of population was 24 gallons per day. The proposed scheme made provision for an additional relief sewer for the Northern outfall and a storm water overflow on the Southern outfall in Wellingborough Road, together with additional foul sewers to drain the streets abutting the latter outfall on Wellingborough Road. The reconstruction of the sewage disposal works involves the alteration of certain existing tanks and the provision of additional biological filtering material. The scheme proposed will, it is estimated, be capable of dealing with a d.w.f. of 100,000 gallons (10,000 gallons domestic and 4,000 gallons trade waste, in addition to the estimated existing d.w.f. of 86,000 gallons). The reconstructed works will comprise the following :—Inlet and Detritus tank, 7,000 gallons—14 hours' flow; Settling Tanks, 69,500 gallons, or 14 hours' flow; Primary

Filters, 2,200 cub. yds., or 45 gallons per cub. yd. ; Secondary Filters, 1,000 cub. yds., or 100 gallons per cub. yd. per day, and a humus tank of 27,000 gallons capacity, or six and a half hours' flow. An additional storm water tank is proposed, together with sludge drying beds.

A Public Local Enquiry was held by an Inspector of the Ministry of Health on 1st February, 1945, into the proposals of the Corporation. Following the enquiry, conferences were held at the Ministry of Health into the technical details, and as a result, Mr. J. H. Garner, of Wakefield, an expert on sewage disposal problems, was asked to carry out a field investigation and make additional chemical examinations of the sewage. A detailed and exhaustive report was received in December, and from this it is quite clear that the efficient treatment of the sewage will be governed to a great extent by the elimination of much of the suspended matter which emanates from trade premises. The co-operation of the leather-dressers and curriers in giving some form of treatment at their works is an essential pre-requisite to the satisfactory treatment of the town's sewage. For the present, therefore, the additional sewers and reconstruction of the sewage works awaits negotiation with the leather trade and the Ministry of Health.

Closet Accommodation—All houses and factories are on the water carriage system.

Disinfection—Concurrent and terminal disinfection associated with infectious diseases are carried out by liquid and gaseous disinfectants. Steam disinfection was carried out on bedding, etc., as the occasion demanded, at Rushden Urban District Council's disinfection plant.

Eradication of Bed Bugs—No case of infestation by *Cimex lectularius* came to notice.

Public Cleansing—The collection of refuse and salvage continues to be carried out in a satisfactory manner by means of a Morris refuse lorry. The number of loads of house refuse collected and deposited at Meadow Lane tip was 312. The trade refuse from factories is deposited at the Mill Chrome Tanning Company's tip.

Details of the work carried out by the Sanitary Inspector is given in Table No. 2, page 17.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

Progress in the provision of new corporation houses has been slower than was anticipated. No houses were built in 1945. The site preparation of the estate adjoining High Street was not completed, but the work was in full swing by the end of the year. A revised lay-out plan was approved for this estate. In substitution for the original proposal for 156 houses, a new plan was prepared for 136 houses. The final allocation of the houses provides for twenty pairs of houses, twenty-one blocks of four and two of six houses.

Sites for ten pre-fabricated bungalows were obtained, but by the end of 1945 no bungalows had been erected.

The houses which were let under licence granted under Regulations 68A and 68AA of the Defence (General) Regulations and mentioned in the 1944 report, were for the most part still occupied in 1945. As these houses become vacant the council have refused the owners permission to relet the premises, since in most cases the houses have ceased to have **any** useful function in relieving the pressing need for houses in the borough.

An interesting and most commendable innovation regarding the design of new corporation houses took place in December, when representatives of women's organisations were invited to view the plans for the new houses at the Town Hall. In this way the needs of the housewife were made known, and whilst I am sure that suggestions for improvements are most welcome, the size, design, equipment and fittings are to a great extent governed by the "ceiling" prices fixed by the Ministry of Health.

The demand for housing accommodation in the borough remains acute, and the waiting list for corporation houses exceeded two hundred applications.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926—There are twelve names on the register of Cowkeepers, Dairymen and Retailers of milk. One dairy farmer is licenced by the County Council as a producer of Accredited Milk. The Sanitary Inspector has kept the premises under supervision and the Medical Officer of Health has also carried out Inspections.

Milk Supply—Samples of milk were submitted each quarter by the Sanitary Inspector to the County Laboratory for examination as to cleanliness and keeping quality. The samples are submitted to a standardised methylene blue test to determine if the milk will be sufficiently fresh to be drinkable for some 24 hours after delivery to the consumer. The number of samples so submitted and the classification of the results were :

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Number.</i> | | | | <i>Per cent.</i> | | |
|-------------|----------------|-------------|-----------------|------------|------------------|-----------------|------------|
| | <i>Total</i> | <i>Good</i> | <i>Moderate</i> | <i>Bad</i> | <i>Good</i> | <i>Moderate</i> | <i>Bad</i> |
| 1945 | 31 | 26 | 3 | 2 | 83.8 | 9.7 | 6.5 |

The results of the tests showed that 83.8% of samples conformed to the prescribed tests for accredited milk, and the results showed a much higher standard than those for 1944, when 37% passed the test. The results of the examinations are communicated to the producers and/or retailers and advice given in appropriate cases by the Sanitary Inspector. The classification of the results is arbitrary and based on a County standard, since there are no prescribed tests for the bacteriological cleanliness and keeping quality of non-designated milk. The milk supplied to the local school is pasteurised.

Livestock (Restriction on Slaughtering) Order, 1940—The Sanitary Inspector has continued to devote much of his time to the work of meat inspection at the Rushden Industrial Co-operative Society's slaughterhouse, which is controlled by the Ministry of Food. The inspector made 610 visits to the slaughterhouse and inspected 14,528 carcasses. About 56 tons of meat and offals were condemned. This rigid control of the meat supply is one of the best public health measures which has been evolved during the war and its continuation in principle has much to commend it as a permanent function of a local authority health department.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Smallpox—No cases were notified. Four contacts from overseas, who disembarked at Liverpool or Glasgow, were kept under surveillance for the requisite period.

Scarlet Fever—Only four cases of this disease were notified as compared with five in 1944. The infection continues to be of mild clinical type, and no deaths occurred.

Diphtheria—No cases were notified.

Diphtheria Immunisation—The arrangements described in the Annual Report for 1939-42 continues to function satisfactorily. The following table gives the details of the progress in immunisation for the child population as at 31st December, 1945 :

| Age at 31.12.45 ... i.e. Born in Year | Under | | | | | 5 to 9 1936- 1940 | 10 to 14 1931- 1935 | Total under 15 |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| | 1 1945 | 1 1944 | 2 1943 | 3 1942 | 4 1941 | | | |
| Number Immunised | 1 | 51 | 49 | 47 | 46 | 243 | 232 | 669 |
| Estimated mid-year population 1945 | 2 6 8 | | | | | 4 6 8 | | |

The above figures take no account of children immunised by private arrangement.

Pneumonia—Ten cases of notifiable pneumonia were intimated, as compared with five in 1944. Two deaths were ascribed to pneumonia as the primary cause of death.

Erysipelas—No cases were notified, as compared with two in the previous year.

Measles—A total of sixty-eight cases were notified as compared with four in 1944. Sixty-one of the cases occurred in the second quarter of the year, but the outbreak did not reach the same height as in the previous outbreak of 1943, when 131 cases were notified. Whilst in general the

disease was of a mild clinical type, one child died. The notifications for 1945 were 20.7 per thousand of population, as compared with 11.67 for England and Wales.

Whooping Cough—Only one case was notified as compared with ten in 1944. There were no deaths.

Tuberculosis—There were eleven new cases of tuberculosis (10 respiratory, 1 non-pulmonary) notified as compared with eight in 1944. Three males died from pulmonary infections, and one female from “other forms of tuberculosis.” The age incidence of new cases and deaths from the infection are given in Table No. 5, page 19.

No action was considered necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under the Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172.

SECTION G.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

TABLE No. 1.

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1945.

| <i>Causes of Death</i> | | | | | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|------------------------|---|-----|-----|-----|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. | Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| 2. | Cerebro-spinal fever | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| 3. | Scarlet fever | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| 4. | Whooping cough | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| 5. | Diphtheria | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| 6. | Tuberculosis of respiratory system | ... | ... | ... | 3 | — | 3 |
| 7. | Other forms of tuberculosis | ... | ... | ... | — | 1 | 1 |
| 8. | Syphilitic diseases | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| 9. | Influenza | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| 10. | Measles | ... | ... | ... | — | 1 | 1 |
| 11. | Acute polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| 12. | Acute infective encephalitis | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| 13. | Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (M.) | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| | uterus (F.) | ... | ... | ... | 1 | — | 1 |
| 14. | Cancer of stomach and duodenum | ... | ... | ... | 1 | — | 1 |
| 15. | Cancer of breast | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| 16. | Cancer of all other sites | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 17. | Diabetes | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| 18. | Intra-cranial vascular lesions | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| 19. | Heart disease | ... | ... | ... | 9 | 5 | 14 |
| 20. | Other diseases of circulatory system | ... | ... | ... | — | 1 | 1 |
| 21. | Bronchitis | ... | ... | ... | — | 1 | 1 |
| 22. | Pneumonia | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 23. | Other respiratory diseases | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| 24. | Ulcer of stomach or duodenum | ... | ... | ... | 2 | — | 2 |
| 25. | Diarrhoea under 2 years | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| 26. | Appendicitis | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| 27. | Other digestive diseases | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| 28. | Nephritis | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 29. | Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| 30. | Other maternal causes | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| 31. | Premature birth | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| 32. | Congenital malformations, birth injury and infantile diseases | ... | ... | ... | 2 | — | 2 |
| 33. | Suicide | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| 34. | Road traffic accidents | ... | ... | ... | 2 | — | 2 |
| 35. | Other violent causes | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| 36. | All other causes | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| ALL CAUSES | | | | | 30 | 16 | 46 |

TABLE NO. 2.

**SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS MADE BY THE
SANITARY INSPECTOR.**

| | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Complaints received | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 17 |
| Houses inspected | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 18 |
| Premises for voluntary improvement | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Other premises | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| Secondary inspections | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 32 |
| Butchers' shops inspected | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Total | | | | | | 79 |
| Factories Act, 1937. | | | | | | |
| Factories, inspections of | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 19 |
| Workshops, inspections of | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Bakehouses, inspections of | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Total | | | | | | 23 |
| Infectious Diseases, etc., Inspections. | | | | | | |
| Tuberculosis | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Scarlet fever | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Other Diseases | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Smallpox (contacts) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Total | | | | | | 10 |
| Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act. | | | | | | |
| Cowsheds | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12 |
| Dairies | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12 |
| Total | | | | | | 24 |
| DISINFECTIONS, Etc. | | | | | | |
| INFECTIOUS DISEASES, ETC. | | | | | | |
| Rooms. | | | | | | |
| Tuberculosis | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Tubercular Meningitis | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Scarlet fever | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Other Diseases | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Total | | | | | | 7 |
| Articles. | | | | | | |
| Beds | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 18 |
| Pillows and bolsters | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 41 |
| Articles of bedding | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 47 |
| Articles of wearing apparel | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 72 |
| Household articles | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| Total | | | | | | 183 |

DEFECTS REMEDIED DURING THE YEAR.

| | | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Roofs repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Internal walls repaired and re-plastered | | | | | ... | | 4 |
| Ceilings repaired or reformed | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | 2 |
| Window frames repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | 1 |
| Firegrates repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | 1 |
| Rooms repaired and cleansed | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | 1 |
| Staircases repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | 1 |
| Water-closets repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | 3 |
| Obstructions removed from drains | | | ... | ... | ... | | 1 |
| Water standards repaired | | ... | ... | ... | ... | | 1 |
| Other nuisances abated | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | 7 |

VOLUNTARY IMPROVEMENTS.

| | | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--|---|
| Out-houses converted into sanitary conveniences | ... | | | | | | 1 |
| Pedestal water closet pans and flushing cisterns erected | | | | | | | 1 |
| Lavatory basins fixed | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | 1 |
| Inspection chambers constructed | | | ... | ... | ... | | 1 |
| Drains constructed | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | 2 |
| Ventilating pipes constructed | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | 1 |

FACTORIES.

| | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--|---|
| Drains constructed | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | 1 |
| Extra sanitary conveniences provided | | | | ... | ... | | 1 |
| Pedestal pans and flushing cisterns fixed | | | | ... | ... | | 1 |
| Sinks and waste pipes fixed | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | 1 |
| Intervening air spaces constructed | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | 6 |
| Water-closets repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | 5 |
| Water-closets cleansed and limewashed | | | | ... | ... | | 5 |
| Obstructions removed from drains | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | 1 |
| Inspection chambers constructed | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | 1 |

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

| | |
|---|---|
| <i>Cowsheds.</i> Walls and ceilings cleansed and limewashed | 1 |
| <i>Dairies.</i> Walls and ceilings cleansed and limewashed | 1 |

TABLE No. 3.

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) 1945.

| <i>Disease</i> | January | February | March | April | May | June | July | August | September | October | November | December | TOTAL |
|-------------------|---------|----------|-------|-------|-----|------|------|--------|-----------|---------|----------|----------|-------|
| Dysentery ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Scarlet fever ... | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 4 |
| Diphtheria ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Pneumonia ... | 3 | 1 | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | 1 | 2 | 1 | 10 |
| Erysipelas ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Measles ... | — | — | 4 | 12 | 41 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | 68 |
| Whooping cough | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 |
| TOTALS ... | 3 | 1 | 5 | 13 | 43 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 83 |

TABLE NO. 4.

AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES
(Other than Tuberculosis) 1945.

| <i>Disease</i> | —1 | —2 | —3 | —4 | —5 | —10 | —15 | —20 | —35 | —45 | —65 | 65+ | All Ages | Removed to Hospital | Deaths |
|-------------------|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|------------------------|--------|
| Dysentery ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Scarlet fever ... | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 2 | — | 1 | — | — | — | 4 | — | — |
| Diphtheria ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Pneumonia ... | 2 | 1 | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | 2 | 2 | 1 | 10 | — | 2 |
| Erysipelas ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Measles ... | 5 | 13 | 9 | 13 | 16 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | 68 | — | 1 |
| Whooping cough | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — |
| TOTALS ... | 7 | 15 | 9 | 14 | 17 | 10 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 83 | — | 3 |

TABLE NO. 5.

NEW CASES OF AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1945.

| <i>Age Periods</i> | <i>New Cases</i> | | | | <i>Deaths</i> | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|---------------|------------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|------------------------|---------------|
| | <i>Respiratory</i> | | <i>Non-respiratory</i> | | <i>Respiratory</i> | | <i>Non-respiratory</i> | |
| | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> |
| — 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| — 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| —15 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| —25 | 3 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| —35 | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| —45 | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| —55 | 2 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| —65 | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| 65+ | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Totals | 9 | 1 | — | 1 | 3 | — | — | 1 |

TABLE No. 6.

VITAL STATISTICS DURING 1945 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

| Year | Estimated Population | Births | | Deaths | | | |
|------|-------------------------|--------|------|----------------|-------|----------|------|
| | | | | Under One Year | | All Ages | |
| | | No. | Rate | No. | Rate | No. | Rate |
| 1891 | 1,810 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 1892 | 1,810 | 51 | 28.1 | 7 | 137.0 | 27 | 14.9 |
| 1893 | 2,000 | 54 | 27.0 | 6 | 111.0 | 34 | 17.0 |
| 1894 | 2,000 | 65 | 32.5 | 12 | 184.0 | 37 | 18.5 |
| 1895 | 2,000 | 64 | 32.0 | 3 | 47.0 | 30 | 15.0 |
| 1896 | 2,000 | 56 | 28.0 | 6 | 107.0 | 22 | 11.0 |
| 1897 | 2,000 | 67 | 33.5 | 5 | 75.0 | 31 | 15.5 |
| 1898 | 2,000 | 74 | 37.0 | 9 | 121.0 | 27 | 13.5 |
| 1899 | 2,500 | 62 | 24.8 | 11 | 177.0 | 25 | 10.0 |
| 1900 | 2,540 | 69 | 27.1 | 9 | 130.0 | 31 | 12.2 |
| 1901 | 2,540 | 79 | 31.1 | 3 | 37.9 | 26 | 10.2 |
| 1902 | 2,540 | 56 | 22.0 | 3 | 53.5 | 26 | 10.2 |
| 1903 | 2,540 | 59 | 23.2 | 6 | 101.7 | 27 | 10.6 |
| 1904 | 2,540 | 61 | 24.0 | 4 | 65.6 | 22 | 8.6 |
| 1905 | 2,794 | 48 | 17.2 | 5 | 104.1 | 28 | 9.6 |
| 1906 | 2,884 | 49 | 16.9 | 3 | 61.2 | 26 | 8.6 |
| 1907 | 2,920 | 51 | 17.4 | 5 | 98.0 | 25 | 7.8 |
| 1908 | 2,920 | 63 | 21.5 | 2 | 31.7 | 29 | 9.0 |
| 1909 | 2,920 | 56 | 19.1 | 5 | 89.3 | 27 | 9.2 |
| 1910 | 2,920 | 42 | 14.3 | 1 | 23.8 | 24 | 8.2 |
| 1911 | 2,726 | 53 | 19.4 | 2 | 37.7 | 25 | 9.1 |
| 1912 | 2,726 | 37 | 13.5 | 3 | 81.0 | 21 | 7.7 |
| 1913 | 2,776 | 56 | 20.1 | 5 | 89.2 | 34 | 12.2 |
| 1914 | 2,776 | 53 | 19.0 | 3 | 56.8 | 28 | 10.0 |
| 1915 | 2,849 | 51 | 18.3 | 4 | 78.4 | 37 | 12.9 |
| 1916 | 2,769 | 46 | 15.2 | 6 | 130.4 | 31 | 11.1 |
| 1917 | 2,838 | 45 | 15.8 | 3 | 66.6 | 30 | 11.7 |
| 1918 | 2,987 | 36 | 12.0 | 3 | 83.3 | 38 | 14.2 |
| 1919 | 2,863 | 44 | 14.7 | 2 | 45.5 | 28 | 9.7 |
| 1920 | 2,977 | 69 | 23.1 | 9 | 130.4 | 35 | 11.7 |
| 1921 | 2,912 | 47 | 16.1 | 2 | 42.5 | 32 | 10.9 |
| 1922 | 2,929 | 40 | 13.6 | 5 | 125.0 | 27 | 9.2 |
| 1923 | 2,944 | 54 | 18.3 | 2 | 37.0 | 36 | 12.2 |
| 1924 | 2,965 | 42 | 14.1 | 2 | 47.6 | 36 | 12.1 |
| 1925 | 2,998 | 35 | 11.6 | 3 | 85.7 | 17 | 5.6 |
| 1926 | 3,091 | 37 | 11.9 | 3 | 81.0 | 23 | 7.4 |
| 1927 | 3,120 | 39 | 12.1 | 6 | 153.0 | 43 | 13.7 |
| 1928 | 3,208 | 43 | 13.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 27 | 8.4 |
| 1929 | 3,054 | 43 | 14.7 | 3 | 69.0 | 23 | 7.3 |
| 1930 | 3,054 | 41 | 13.4 | 2 | 48.7 | 31 | 10.1 |
| 1931 | 2,950 | 30 | 10.1 | 2 | 66.0 | 32 | 10.8 |
| 1932 | 2,938 | 25 | 8.5 | 2 | 80.0 | 39 | 13.2 |
| 1933 | 2,944 | 42 | 14.2 | 1 | 23.8 | 33 | 11.2 |
| 1934 | 2,946 | 28 | 9.5 | 1 | 35.0 | 28 | 9.5 |
| 1935 | 2,987 | 31 | 10.4 | 0 | 0.0 | 37 | 12.4 |
| 1936 | 3,003 | 43 | 14.3 | 1 | 23.2 | 30 | 10.0 |
| 1937 | 3,076 | 49 | 15.9 | 2 | 40.8 | 34 | 11.0 |
| 1938 | 3,120 | 36 | 11.5 | 1 | 27.7 | 35 | 11.2 |
| 1939 | 3,145 | 27 | 8.6 | 0 | 0.0 | 53 | 16.5 |
| 1940 | 3,172 | 40 | 12.6 | 0 | 0.0 | 39 | 12.3 |
| 1941 | 3,690 | 45 | 12.5 | 1 | 22.2 | 42 | 11.6 |
| 1942 | 3,528 | 55 | 15.5 | 2 | 36.3 | 28 | 7.9 |
| 1943 | 3,366 | 52 | 15.4 | 1 | 19.2 | 39 | 11.3 |
| 1944 | 3,298 | 60 | 18.2 | 1 | 16.7 | 36 | 10.9 |
| 1945 | 3,268 | 71 | 21.7 | 2 | 28.2 | 46 | 14.1 |

